



April 30, 2007

Reply to Attn of:

LS01(DMW)

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: LS01/ William J. Bierbower

SUBJECT: Blanket Approval to Attend an Open House and Cook Out
Sponsored by Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne

In accordance with 5 CFR § 2635.204(g)(2) and (3), I make the following determination:

MSFC invitees¹, accompanied by their spouse or a guest, may attend an open house and cook out to celebrate 30 years of successful support by the Hardware Simulation Laboratory (HSL) to the Space Shuttle Main Engine Program. The event is sponsored by Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne and will be held at the Redstone Arsenal Rustic Lodge on Wednesday, May 16, 2007. Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne is solely responsible for all management and expense of the event and has indicated that gifts will not be provided for attendees.

This event will be a widely-attended gathering of representatives from the surrounding local communities, MSFC employees, Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne employees, and will consist of a tour of the HSL and a cook out. The event is valued at \$15 per person and over 250 people are expected to attend. I find that the event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR § 2635.204(g)(2).

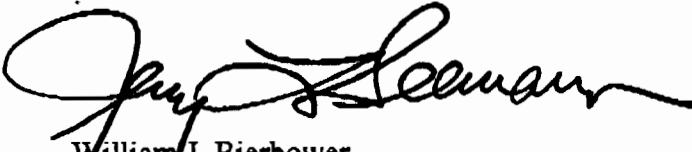
I have determined that free attendance at the above mentioned event is in the interest of the agency because it will further agency programs and operations. The attendance of MSFC employees at the event will help to raise NASA's profile with state and local business and governmental leaders, will contribute to community relations, and will support NASA's statutory mandate to disseminate information about its activities. Given the purpose of the event, the broad attendance anticipated, and the modest market value of this social event, I have determined that the value to the agency in having employees attend this event outweighs any concern that free attendance may or may appear to improperly influence them in the performance of their duties.

Accordingly, MSFC employees that have been invited to attend may accept free attendance at the event. They may also accept invitations for accompanying spouses or

¹ 36 MSFC employees and 4 KSC employees.



guests. MSFC employees who feel that their duties may in some way substantially affect Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne are not covered in this determination and should contact Devinti M. Williams. at (256) 544-0012, to seek a determination pursuant to 5 CFR § 2635.204(g)(3)(i), regarding their participation in this event.


for William J. Bierbower
Chief Counsel